Fly Fishing

(Story words: caught, catching)

We mostly think of fishing as dropping some live bait deep under the water and hoping a fish will bite the bait and get caught. Fly fishing is a different method of catching fish.

Fly fishers, or anglers, often wade into a stream with big rubber boots. They use a fishing rod with fake flies, not live bait. These flies are made to resemble water insects, such as mayflies and stoneflies, that trout feed on. These insects live on the top of the water, and so the angler wants his flies to float on top of the stream to fool the fish. Some anglers collect many, many flies, and some anglers make their own flies.

The fishing line that the angler uses is coated with plastic. This gives the line a heft and bulk needed so that the angler can throw the line to a particular spot. Anglers look at a stream and try to predict where the trout are most likely to be. Trout is not the only fish that anglers catch. They also catch pike, bass, panfish, and carp.

Casting the line is the tricky part. When the angler throws his rod, the reel spins and makes a whirring sound. If an angler finds a good spot, he can catch dozens of fish in just a few hours.

On a camping trip, the angler is sometimes the hero when he brings back trout for a fresh fish dinner. Anglers say that there is nothing more relaxing than being at a stream or river casting for fish.